

SAFETY PAGE

Staying Safe with the police: *Trans Safety Tips**

At times, police officers wrongly assume that trans-identified people are "suspicious characters." Thinking about what you would do before you get into a tough situation can sometimes make a huge difference. *For specific legal rights and advice, consult an attorney.*

1. Stay Calm

If approached, don't panic or try to run. Be respectful, don't touch the officer, resist, or respond to anti-trans gestures or remarks. For your own safety and well being, don't challenge the officer while s/he has the upper hand.

2. Carry an ID

If the name and/or sex does not match your gender identity, tell the officer that your birth name is not the name that you go by.

3. Say as little as possible

Things you say can be used against you. If you are arrested, say nothing unless your lawyer is present. Be very careful talking to other arrestees – they may be police informants.

4. You don't have to consent to a search

However, officers can pat down your clothing if they suspect you are carrying a weapon.

5. You have a right to an attorney

If you are arrested, calmly ask why and immediately ask to speak to an attorney. If you can't afford an attorney, you have a right to a free attorney.

6. You have options

You can ask to be taken to a hospital if you need medical attention or require time-sensitive medications. You can also request to be held in an area other than the general detention cell if you feel that your safety is at risk.

REPORT police misconduct

If you are injured as a result of police misconduct, seek medical attention and document the incident. Take photographs and write down everything that happened as soon as possible while it is clear in your memory. Include descriptions, the officer's name, badge numbers, patrol car numbers and whether witnesses were present. Know that an officer must have a reasonable suspicion that you have committed a crime in order to detain you. After the incident, if you feel you have been mistreated, report what happened to BRAVO at 614-268-9622 or toll free at 866-86-BRAVO.

*These safety tips are taken from a brochure produced by the Community & Police Relations Program of the Anti-Violence Project (New York, NY), and the Gender Identity Project of the Lesbian & Gay Community Services Center (New York, NY).

Isn't It Time Your Troop Talked About Queer Safety?



**Keep members of your LGBT group safe!
Contact the BRAVO Speakers Bureau to schedule a
workshop about Street Safety, Hate Crimes,
Relationship Violence, or Self Defense.**

BRAVO

**(614) 268-9622 * bravoavp@earthlink.net
PO Box 82068, Columbus 43202**

614/268-9622 1-866/86-BRAVO

NEW TOLL FREE NUMBER AND EXPANDED HELPLINE HOURS

DON'T TAKE IT. REPORT IT.

CALL TO REPORT VIOLENCE, THREATS, HARASSMENT, AND ABUSE

BRAVO

Buckeye Region Anti-Violence Organization

SERVING THE LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, AND TRANSGENDER COMMUNITIES OF CENTRAL OHIO SINCE 1996.

Buckeye Region Anti-Violence Organization

BRAVO fact sheet

As of June 30, 1996, BRAVO is and has:

- ▲ code of regulations
- ▲ mission statement
- ▲ two year budget
- ▲ 10 of 12 trustees seated with 30% people of color
- ▲ fulltime executive director, Gloria McCauley (unpaid position)
- ▲ non-profit, 501(c)3 tax status pending
- ▲ incorporated in the state of Ohio
- ▲ grants proposals submitted and grants received from the Lesbian Business Association and United Way of Franklin County
- ▲ several other grants pending
- ▲ seven special events planned for summer and fall of 1996
- ▲ direct fundraising campaign in place
- ▲ commitments for Advisory Council
- ▲ volunteer opportunities
- ▲ designated as the official organization for Columbus's participation in the national tracking of hate crime statistics program
- ▲ supported by local and national organizations, including:
 - National Coalition on Anti-Violence Programs
 - Columbus Division of Police
 - Stonewall, Inc.
 - CHOICES for Victims of Domestic Violence
 - Women Student Services, the Ohio State University
 - Rape Education and Prevention Program, the Ohio State University
 - Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Student Services, the Ohio State University
 - Ohio Domestic Violence Network
 - Ohio Coalition On Sexual Assault

**For more information on BRAVO, contact Gloria McCauley at
614/268-9622, PO Box 82068, Columbus OH 43202.**

Have you...

Been Harassed?

Been Threatened?

Been Attacked?

Report Hate Crimes 614-268-9622

Buckeye **R**egion **A**nti **V**iolence **O**rganization

Serving Central Ohio's
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender
Communities

Gloria McCauley, Executive Director
P.O. Box 82068
Columbus, Ohio 43202

All Reports Confidential. All Services Free.

Member of the **N**ational **C**oalition of **A**nti **V**iolence **P**rograms

S/M is *not* Domestic Violence

S/M is the expression of affection between adults in a manner that is **safe, sane and consensual**. Sometimes, it is hard for someone on the outside (even a professional) to tell the difference between s/m and violence. The following questions are presented as a tool to help distinguish that difference:

Does your partner ever hit, choke, or otherwise physically hurt you outside of a scene? Has she/he ever restrained you against your will? Locked you in a room? Used a weapon of any kind?

Are you afraid of your partner?

Are you confused about when a scene begins and ends? Rape and forced sexual acts are not part of consensual s/m. Battering is not something that can be 'agreed' upon.

Do you have a safe word? (Is there some signal you can give to express displeasure or, more strongly, that you want something to stop? Often it is a word not connected to the scene [i.e., "red light", "freedom", "apple sauce"] that when said cannot be confused with anything except "stop." Sometimes, when speech is not possible some other signal is chosen)

Have your limits ever been violated? If you think so, they have.

Do you feel trapped in a specific role as either top or bottom?

Does your partner constantly criticize your performance, withhold sex as a means of control, or ridicule you for the limits you set? Do you feel obligated to have sex? Does your partner use sex to make up for (or as a reward) after a violent incident?

Does your partner isolate you from friends, family, or groups? Has your partner ever destroyed objects or threatened pets? Has your partner abused or threatened your children?

Does your partner limit access to work or to material resources? Has he/she ever stolen from you or run up debts?

Is your emotional stability dependent on your partner? Does your relationship swing back and forth between a lot of emotional distance and being very close? Is your partner constantly criticizing you, humiliating you, and generally undermining your self-esteem?

Does your partner use scenes to express/cover up anger and frustration?

Do you feel that you can't discuss with your partner what is bothering you?

If you answer any of these questions in the affirmative and want help, advice, or council, please contact:

For questions regarding S/M:

GMSMA, 332 Bleecker Street, D23, New York City 10014

or leave a message where and when you can be reached at (212) 727-9878

For questions regarding Domestic Violence:

NYC Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project, 647 Hudson Street, NYC 10014

(212) 807-6761

LAST WORD

VICTORIA A. BROWNORTH

Domestic blitz

Domestic violence. Those words are inextricably linked in the minds of most Americans to an image of a big, strong man beating up a small, defenseless woman. That stereotypical image, however, is only one of the many faces of domestic violence in the United States.

In 1993 domestic violence is, according to the U.S. Department of Justice and the FBI, the most prevalent violent crime in the country: One in two women will become a victim. What these statistics don't say is that not all the perpetrators are men and not all the victims are women. And not everyone who is a victim of domestic violence is heterosexual.

Domestic violence is one of the dirtiest secrets in the queer community. It is so dirty, in fact, that many of us would prefer that it remain a secret. But it is time our community broke the silence about how domestic violence has crept into our lives.

There are those in the straight community who repeatedly blame the female victims of domestic violence and accuse them of being partners in their own abuse. In the queer community there is a different kind of denial about domestic violence; in our community, women and men claim that battering really isn't happening in the homes of lesbians and gay men.

But it is. In fact, violence in various forms is becoming as endemic to queer relationships as it is to their straight counterparts. This should be a major cause for concern and action in our community, not a reason for denial. The fear of acknowledging the extent of domestic violence in our community is multifaceted. As a minority community we fear that if the straight community sees us as less than perfect, then this will be yet another block to our assimilation and our civil rights.

The other reasons are more complex. Gay men are supposed to rough it up and take it on the chin. What are a few punches between men? For lesbians there is the feminism factor: If men are the source of all violence against women, then how could/another woman be the perpetrator? This fact would violate the theory that women can't hurt other women.

The mythologies about who lesbians and gay men are reinforce the idea that domestic violence cannot exist in queer relationships. And yet there are certain pressures and conflicts inherent in queer relationships that simply don't exist for heterosexuals. One such conflict is the notion that there is a connectedness between members of the same sex that doesn't exist between men and women. Two women together or two men together are supposed to understand each other—emotionally and sexually—in ways heterosexuals cannot. An equally damaging pressure is the effect of homophobia on queer couples. Ho-

mophobia from the outside can cause rifts with families and jobs; internalized, that homophobia is easy to take out on one's partner. The attitude that queers are as bad as the straight world says we are can turn us into batterers or victims.

It can also turn us toward substance abuse. The rate of drug and alcohol addiction in our community is staggering. And according to the FBI, alcohol and/or drugs are factors in over 75% of all cases of domestic violence. Queer battering is one of the many realities in our community, but our denial isolates the victims and makes them doubt the severity of the abuse they are experiencing. It leaves them ashamed and alone, unsure of where to turn for help.

Ironically, victims of queer domestic violence are beginning to turn to centers established to deal with violence perpetrated against lesbians and gay men by straights. In cities such as New York, San Francisco, Boston, and Minneapolis, antiviolence networks are treating and counseling a growing number of women and men abused by their queer partners.

But in cities and towns where such services don't exist, these victims are set adrift. Lesbians often seek help at battered-women's shelters and agencies only to be told that what they've experienced isn't real battering because the perpetrator is another woman. And gay men have nowhere to turn. There is no room for the male victim of battering in the social welfare system.

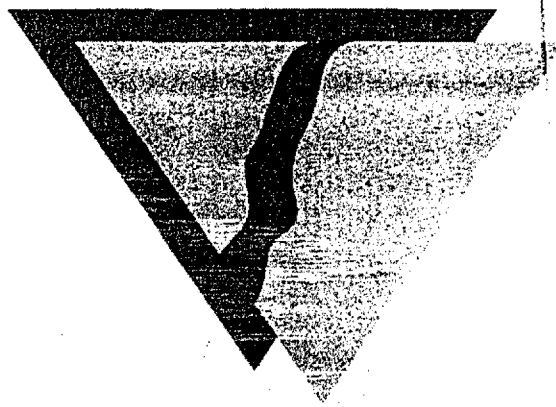
To most queer organizations, coping with domestic violence in our queer households is an embarrassment, a problem nearly everyone—save the victims—would like to see swept under the proverbial carpet. But as the violence escalates and the victims multiply, we can no longer ignore this growing crisis within our community. We have to address why the abuse happens, how to control it, and how to protect and care for both victim and batterer. Being queer-bashed at home is just as deadly as—and perhaps more terrible than—being assaulted by strangers. The difference is that this is violence we have the power to stop.



Victoria A. Brownworth is a syndicated columnist for the *Philadelphia Daily News*. Her work also appears regularly in *The Village Voice*, *Spin*, and other publications.

What can you do for your friend who is being abused?

- Believe your friend.
- Keep his/her sharing confidential.
- Understand that leaving his/her relationship is difficult. You must proceed as the victim/survivor chooses.
- Offer your friend safe housing.
- Offer your friend support and legal advocacy.
- Assure your friend that he/she neither deserves nor is responsible for the violence.
- Let your friend know that he/she is not alone.
- Refer your friend to the Gay and Lesbian Domestic Violence Program (612) 822-0127.



(612)822-0127

Gay and Lesbian Domestic Violence Program

NO ONE DESERVES TO BE ABUSED

Domestic Violence does exist in the Gay and Lesbian Communities. Every class, race, color and religious segment of our community experiences Domestic Abuse or Battering. Perhaps as many as 25% of gay and lesbian relationships are abusive. This is disillusioning, but it is true. Help end the silence around this community problem.

What is gay/lesbian domestic violence?

Domestic Abuse or Battering is a pattern of intentional intimidation for the purpose of gaining or maintaining power and control over another. The abuse almost always escalates over time.

Battering or Domestic Abuse can be any or all of the following:

- emotional abuse — suicide threats, insults, put-downs, etc.
- sexual abuse — any non-consenting behavior such as forcing or coercing sexual acts, manipulation, rape, etc.
- psychological abuse — outing, threats of violence to children or pets, etc.
- physical abuse — hitting, choking, restraining, pushing, throwing objects, driving recklessly, etc.

- Battering is not mutual.
- Battering is not a lover's quarrel or a fair fight.
- Batterers are not always butcher or bigger.
- Battering is not sado-masochism. SM must be consensual; battering is not agreed upon, nor is there a "safe word" to end the violence.
- Victims, survivors do not provoke the abuse or enable the batterer. The batterer alone is responsible for his or her behavior.

A healthy relationship involves respectful communication and behavior. Everyone deserves a safe and healthy relationship.

YOU HAVE CHOICES

You can stay

Lesbians and gay men have many reasons for staying in violent or abusive relationships — fear of or feelings for the abuser, reluctance to use inappropriate services and fear of the abuser coming out for them. If you choose to stay, information and support are still available.

You can get help

There are resources available for victims/survivors of Gay and Lesbian Domestic Violence. 24-hour crisis intervention lines can provide emergency help, information and support. There are also counseling programs that can help you sort out your feelings. On the back of this brochure is a list of resources for gay and lesbian Domestic Abuse victims/survivors.

You can leave.

If you decide to leave, there are many resources for information and support. You should develop a safety plan that includes support and safe housing from friends, family and others. There are also safe-house referrals available. The program also offers legal advocacy and support groups.

You can take legal action

Battering is a crime. You have legal choices. You can get the court to order the person to stop hurting you or your children through an Order For Protection (OFP) or a Harassment Restraining Order. You do not need a lawyer.

Whatever your choices, the Gay and Lesbian Domestic Violence Program exists for you. Call (612) 822-0127.

Gay/Lesbian Domestic Violence Resource Bibliography

Books:

Men Who Beat the Men Who Love Them: by David Island and Patrick Letellier. New York: Harrington Park Press, 1991.

Naming the Violence: Speaking Out About Lesbian Battering edited by K. Lobel. Seattle, WA: Seal Press, 1986.

Violent Betrayal: Partner Abuse in Lesbian Relationships by Claire Renzetti. Newbury Park, CA: Sage Publications, Inc., 1992.

Articles:

Not So Different, After All by Patricia King. New York, NY: Newsweek, October 4, 1993,

The Violence At Home by Katrin Snow. Los Angeles, CA: The Advocate, June 4, 1992, pp.60-63.

Battered Husbands--Domestic Violence in Gay Relationships by Michael Szymanski. Los Angeles, CA: Genre Magazine, Fall 1991, pp.35-37,44,73.

The Scrouge of Domestic Violence by David Island, PhD. and Patrick Letellier, MA. Gaybook, #9. San Francisco, CA: Rainbow Ventures, Inc., Winter 1990, pp.11-14

Battered Lovers--The Hidden Problem of Gay Domestic Violence. Los Angeles, CA: The Advocate, March 4th, 1986, pp.42-46.

When Gays Batter Their Partners by David Tuller. San Francisco Chronicle, January 3, 1994, pp.1,A8

Binders:

Confronting Homophobia: A Manual for Battered Woman's and Anti-Sexual Assault Programs edited by P. Elliott and J. Guth. St. Paul: Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women, 1990.

Confronting Lesbian Battering edited by P. Elliott. St. Paul: Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women, 1990.

Others:

Violence Between Lesbian Couples: A Between Groups Comparison by Vallerie Coleman (an unpublished doctoral dissertation). University Microfilms International, 9109022, 1990.

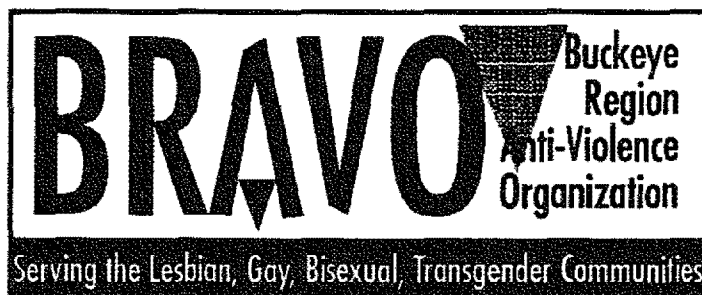
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS CLASSES

The Buckeye Region Anti-Violence Organization (BRAVO) and CHOICES for Victims of Domestic Violence will be sponsoring a series of same-sex domestic violence awareness classes at the Stonewall Community Center. Topics will include:

- **What is domestic violence?**
- **What are the warning signs of a potentially abusive relationship?**
- **Why does a person stay in an abusive relationship?**
- **What resources are available to gays and lesbians in violent relationships?**

The class meets Tuesdays November 5th, 12th and 19th from 7:00-9:00 PM. Please note that this is a series of classes, and it is necessary to attend all three classes. Open to everyone.

For more information and/or to register for the classes, please contact BRAVO at 268-9622.



TEN MYTHS ABOUT LESBIAN AND GAY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Myth #1 Domestic violence is more common in straight relationships than it is in lesbian or gay male relationships.

Truth: There is no reason whatsoever to assume that gay men and lesbians are less violent than heterosexual men and women. Consequently, best estimates of homosexual domestic violence are derived properly from the well-known statistics about battering in the straight community. At least 30,000 lesbians and at least 500,000 gay males are abused by their lovers each year in the United States.

Myth #2 It really isn't violence when a same-sex couple fights. It is just a lovers' quarrel between equals.

Truth: This myth draws on our inability to see violence between two people of the same sex as a violent situation where one person is clearly a victim. This myth is based on the idea that domestic violence is really two people battling in a boxing ring. This is completely false. There is nothing "fair" about domestic violence-being knocked against a wall or enduring endless criticism from an angry lover does not entail fairness. Further, dismissing domestic violence as "just a lovers' quarrel" is trivializing the violence that may be happening and saying that what goes on between lovers is okay. Finally, this myth completely overlooks psychological abuse and material destruction.

Myth #3 The batterer will always be butch, bigger and stronger. The victim will always be femme, smaller and weaker.

Truth: This myth grew out of what most people think victims look like, and it focuses on the unfortunately narrow stereotype that gay and lesbian domestic violence is physical and strength-related. This is simply not true. A person who is 5'5", prone to violence, and very angry can do a lot of damage to someone who may be taller, heavier, stronger and non-violent. Size, weight, butchness, femmeness, queeniness or any other physical attribute or role are not indicators of whether a person will be a victim or a batterer. Again, this myth focuses only on the physical aspects of domestic violence. A batterer does not need to be 6'1" and built like a rugby player to smash your compact discs or cut up your clothing, or tell everyone at work that you "really are a queer".

Myth #4 People who are abusive under the influence of drugs or alcohol are not responsible for their actions.

Truth: Violence is a choice, and there are better choices. Every sane person is always fully responsible for every action taken. Drugs and alcohol are excuses for battering. Studies of batterers in therapy show that batterers decide to batter their mates significantly prior to deciding to drink. There is also evidence that batterers who abuse drugs and alcohol are equally likely to batter when sober. If a person who batters is also on drugs or alcohol, that person has two serious, separate problems. Being on drugs or alcohol does not relieve a battered of responsibility for his or her own conduct.

Myth #9 It is easier for lesbian or gay victims of domestic violence to leave the abusive relationship than it is for heterosexual battered women who are married.

Truth: Gay and lesbian couples are as intertwined and involved in each others' lives as are heterosexual couples. It is also possible that lesbians and gays are more couple/family oriented than their heterosexual counterparts, as many are alienated from their own families.

Myth #10 Victims exaggerate the violence that happens to them. If it were really bad, they would just leave.

Truth: This myth is 100% backwards. Most victims tend to minimize the violence that happens to them because of guilt, shame and self-blame attached to victimization, and because others do not believe them, responding instead with criticism and accusations of exaggeration. Leaving is often the hardest thing for a victim to accomplish, and is often harder than staying. Batterers threaten their victims with more violence(including threats of murder) if they leave. Incidence of domestic violence actuarially increases after a victim leaves. Leaving also requires strength, self-confidence, self-reliance and a healthy self-esteem, all of which have been eroded by life with an abuser,. Leaving a violent lover may also mean leaving one's home, community or city. What is amazing is not that people stay in abusive relationships once the cycles of violence are in motion, but that they are able to get out.

SEXUAL ASSAULT/DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAM

**The Ohio State University Medical Center
EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT**

SERVICES PROVIDED:

The Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence Program offers medical and support services, 24 hours a day – 7 days a week, for female and male survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence.

- Medical Treatment by physicians and nursing personnel who are specially-trained
- Emotional support from a Volunteer Advocate who remains with the survivor throughout their treatment in the Emergency Department
- Crisis counseling available and referrals provided by Emergency Department social workers
- Follow-up medical care

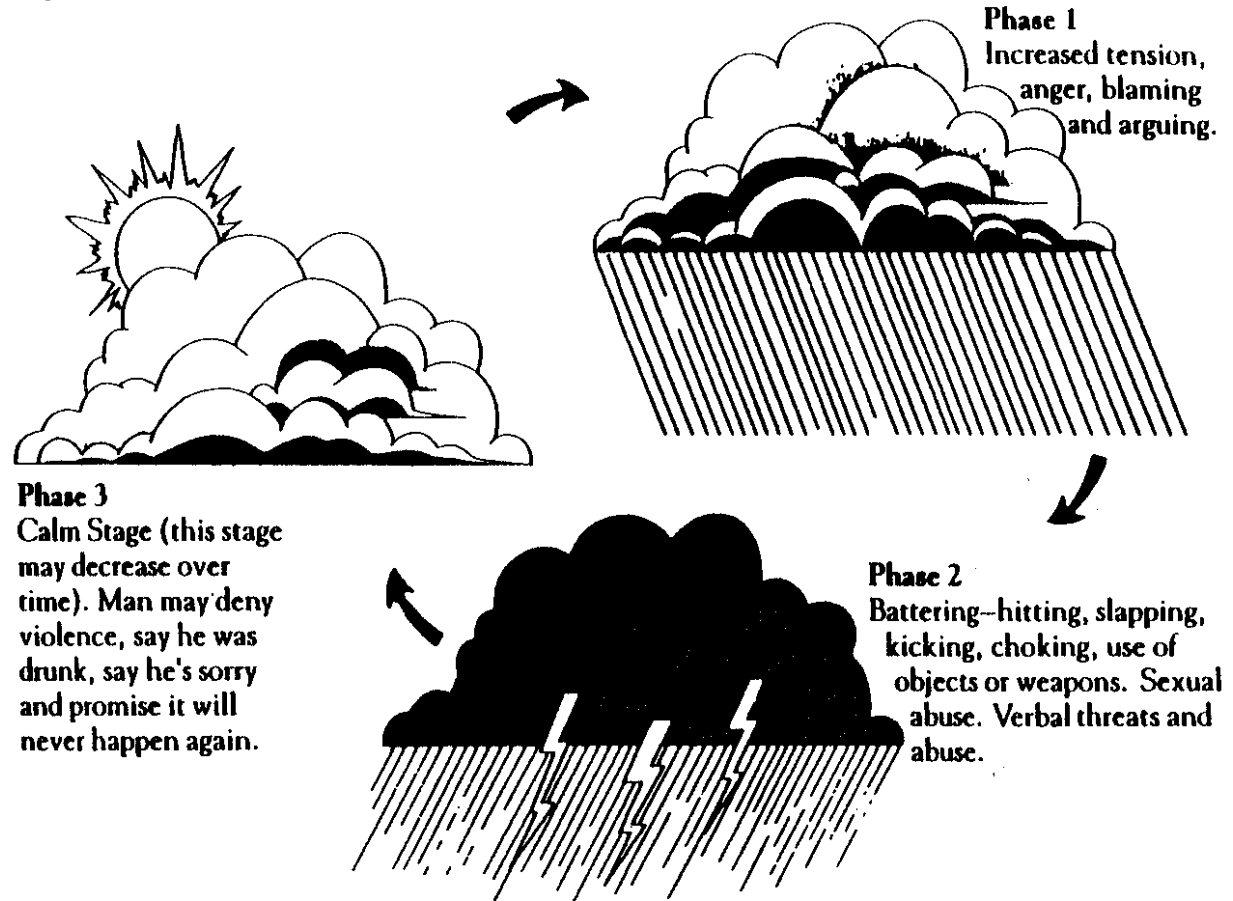
For more information on the
SEXUAL ASSAULT/DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAM

or on volunteer opportunities, please contact:
LAURA CAMPISE, COORDINATOR, AT 293-4905

Facts on Battering

- Battering of women is the most under-reported crime in America.
- 3 to 4 million American women are battered each year.
- 95% of all spouse abuse cases are women who are hurt by men.
- Battering occurs among people of all races.
- A battering incident is rarely an isolated event.
- Battering tends to increase and become more violent over time.
- Many batterers learned violent behavior growing up in an abusive family.

Cycle of Violence



and Pregnancy:

- Battering may start or become worse during pregnancy.
- Battering may lead to miscarriage.
- Battering may lead to alcohol or drug abuse (a form of abuse to the child).
- 25-45% of all women who are battered are battered during pregnancy.
- Battering during pregnancy may be an indication of what life holds in store for the unborn child.

Effects of Battering over time on:

WOMEN: Isolation from others • Low self-esteem, depression • Increased alcohol or drug abuse • Emotional problems, illness • Pain and injuries • Permanent physical damage • Death.

CHILDREN: Emotional problems, illness • Increased fears, anger • Increased risk of abuse, injuries, and death • Repetition of abuse behavior.

MEN: Increased belief that power and control are achieved by violence • Increase in violent behavior • Increased contact with law enforcement • Increased emotional problems • Decreased self-esteem.

SOCIETY: Increase in crime • Increase in legal, police, medical and counseling costs. Cost of prison • Perpetuation of cycle of violence • Perpetuation of myths of inequality of women and men • Decrease in quality of life.

DEVELOPED BY TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY
PREVENTION OF BATTERING DURING
PREGNANCY PROGRAM – FUNDED BY THE
MARCH OF DIMES BIRTH DEFECTS
FOUNDATION.

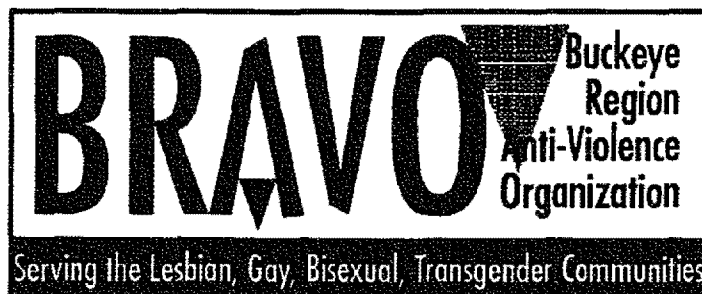
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Group Launched to Fight Hate Crimes

21.5% INCREASE IN VIOLENCE AGAINST GAY MEN AND LESBIANS SPARKS FORMATION OF BRAVO

June 14, 1996—In response to dramatic increases in the number and severity of hate crimes against central Ohio's gay men and lesbians, Gloria McCauley formally announced the launch of a new organization, the Buckeye Region Anti-Violence Organization (BRAVO), to battle violence through education, advocacy and support initiatives. BRAVO is designed to combat the 21.5% increase in documented gay-related hate crimes that occurred locally between 1994 and 1995. Columbus ranks fifth in the nation for crimes committed against lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgendered people. Columbus was one of the first ten cities in the nation to launch an anti-violence project.

BRAVO will document hate crimes in Central Ohio and raise community awareness through educational efforts, including self-defense classes. Direct services available to survivors of anti-gay hate crimes will include crisis intervention, support groups, court room monitoring and legal advocacy for victims. In addition, BRAVO will provide sensitivity training for law enforcement officers throughout the state, as mandated by Ohio's Attorney General.

Gloria McCauley was named BRAVO's Executive Director. McCauley served as Anti-Violence Project Coordinator for Stonewall, Inc., since the project's inception in 1991. McCauley stated, "Unfortunately, increased hostility and violence have created the need for an independent organization that can dedicate itself solely to anti-violence work. BRAVO will succeed in part because of the cooperation with other established community organizations. "

After meeting with representatives of BRAVO, Stonewall's Board of Trustees voted to endorse the new organization and wishes it well. Stonewall maintains its commitment to fighting anti-LGBT violence and will reassess its Anti-Violence Project. Within the next few months, Stonewall will determine how it can best meet the community's needs.

"Someday, we hope that these efforts to stop hate crimes won't be needed," asserted McCauley. "Until then, Central Ohio has BRAVO to help stop the harassment, assault, vandalism and injury of LGBT people."

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For more information, contact: Gloria McCauley
BRAVO
614/268-9622 or 614/263-2277

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All Reports Confidential. All Services Free.

Member of the **N**ational **C**oalition of **A**nti **V**iolence **P**rograms

November 1, 2001

Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Student Services
The Ohio State University
1739 N. High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43201



Dear Student Coordinator:

On behalf of ACTION OHIO COALITION FOR BATTERED WOMEN, I am contacting your organization to offer resources and technical assistance on domestic violence. Although our name implies an alliance with female victims, we understand that anyone can suffer in an abusive situation. Unfortunately, domestic violence is often overlooked in same-sex relationships. In view of the fact that your organization provides resources and support to gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered people, resources available through your agency might help save a life or prevent future trauma.

ACTION OHIO is a statewide domestic violence coalition founded 25 years ago by members of the Council of Ohio YWCAs. Through the years it has provided resource information and referral to domestic violence victims, offered technical assistance and support to DV shelters, and advocated within state government on behalf of victims and those who serve them at the local level. ACTION OHIO has provided leadership in terms of public policy and legislation and increased the quality of services for victims by providing training sessions and conferences for direct service providers.

As we continue to work to eliminate violence in the lives of Ohio's families, we are launching women's health agencies new outreach efforts throughout Ohio. Offering assistance to GLBT organizations is one component of this effort. Enclosed is ACTION OHIO's general information brochure, including a listing of domestic violence shelters throughout Ohio as well as a current issue of our Legislative Watch, covering pertinent policy changes taking place at the Statehouse this month. We are in the process of developing several other resources, such as a stalking brochure and a safety plan card. If it would be helpful, ACTION OHIO could provide you with a supply of these publications. If your organization has not linked with local domestic violence agencies, ACTION OHIO could facilitate that as well.

Please consider how we may support your efforts and collaborate to improve the lives and safety of GLBT people in Ohio.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Corrie Baumgardner'.

Corrie Baumgardner
Outreach Coordinator

REC'D NOV 07 2001